

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address June 3, 2016
“Innovating for the 21st Century”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess.

As the new and evolving technologies change the way American consumers engage in their daily activities, Congress must act consciously to enable innovation and growth rather than obstruct it. Increased innovation that harnesses the power of American ingenuity means more jobs, means more opportunities.

Over the past year, the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade has held a series of hearings called the Disrupters Series. We have highlighted technologies such as drones, the sharing economy, digital currency, mobile payments, 3-D printing, the Internet of Things.

Last week the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade, on which I serve as the Chairman, held a hearing to examine a number of bills to bring needed reforms to the Federal Trade Commission.

The Federal Trade Commission’s role in consumer protection, privacy, data security, and competition is rapidly expanding. Yet many of the agency’s regulatory and oversight practices are rooted in a model that’s well over a hundred years old.

It’s time the agency that is charged with regulating the innovation economy is modernized.

This effort is about bringing consumer protection into the 21st century and as a result of what we learned in our examination of innovative technologies in the Disrupters Series.

Federal policies must reflect the exciting realities of the 21st century. And we are taking steps in the Energy & Commerce Committee to be sure that government agencies, like the FTC, stay at the forefront of job creation and economic growth.

As always, I appreciate your comments and questions on this issue.

May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God bless Texas.